

THE DISPATCH FOUNDED 1852.  
THE TIMES FOUNDED 1858.

RICHMOND, VA., SUN JUNE 25, 1911.

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## SHORT TALKS ON VARIOUS TOPICS

The Gold Mines in Halifax County Near the Town of Virgilina.

## FACTORY PROGRESS IN SOUTHLAND

Virginia Is an Inviting Field for Fruit Canners—A Hundred More Would Pay Handsomely—There Are Millions in Mules Raised in Virginia.

BY FRANK S. WOODSON.  
Virgilina is a town on the Danville-Fairfax division of the Southern Railroad. It is on the State line, in fact, is partly in Granville county, N. C., and partly in Halifax county, Virginia, principally in the latter. Thus it gets its name. I have a letter from Virgilina written by T. G. Pool, the cashier of the bank there. Mr. Pool has been reading the Industrial Section, as all good bankers always do, and he has taken note of the accounts printed therein of gold deposits in Fluvanna, Goochland and other counties, and he is a little hurt that the gold deposits in Halifax county, especially those right at Virgilina, have not been mentioned, and he writes a jolly good letter to inquire the reason thereof. Well, the answer is easy enough. No mention was made of the Halifax gold mines because the very information that Mr. Pool now furnishes was lacking. He thinks the precious metal in the Halifax mines is in larger quantities than in the veins that cross Fluvanna, Fauquier and Goochland counties. At any rate, the present owners of the properties are not offering them for sale, and are not organizing any stock companies to work the mines, thinking they have too good a thing to turn loose, and they propose to do all the operating themselves.

**The Gold Discovery.**  
Mr. Pool tells me that the first discovery of gold near Virgilina was made several years ago by local talent. The owners of the land upon which the yellow stuff was found were not in financial condition to develop the property, and so they got two capitalists of Buffalo, N. Y., interested, and all arrangements were made for active business, when the panic of 1907 came along and operations were suspended, and were not resumed until this year, about four months ago.

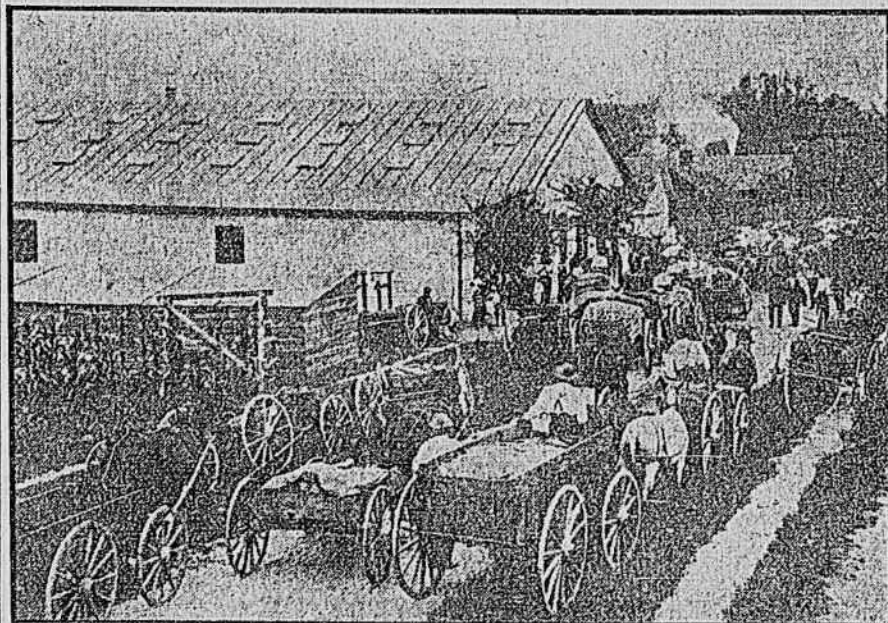
The people about Virgilina had long believed there was gold in the earth thereabouts, and finally they got an expert from the famous mines at Gold Hill, N. C., to investigate. The expert, a Mr. Crowell, found a rich vein, varying in width from four to fifteen feet, and the diggers have gone down to a depth of from 175 to 200 feet, where they have found ore that Mr. Pool thinks is richer than any ever found elsewhere in Virginia. This mine is now owned by Mr. Durgis, of New Haven, Conn., who is enthusiastic over his bright prospects, and is going right ahead with his costly development plans. He has installed much machinery, including twenty stamp mills and a complete cyanide outfit. He expects to have one hundred stamps on the property within the year, and he enthusiastically declares that the "Porcupine fever" will turn to Virgilina inside of six months.

**There Is Copper, Too.**  
Just north of this property Howard Brothers, of Buffalo, N. Y., have found good values a hundred feet under ground, have installed an outfit, and will do extensive work in a short while. John A. Hassell, of New York, is developing another gold mine property about a mile from Durgis's mine. Hassell now has a shaft down about thirty feet, and has struck what he considers a rich vein, running from four to eight feet in width.

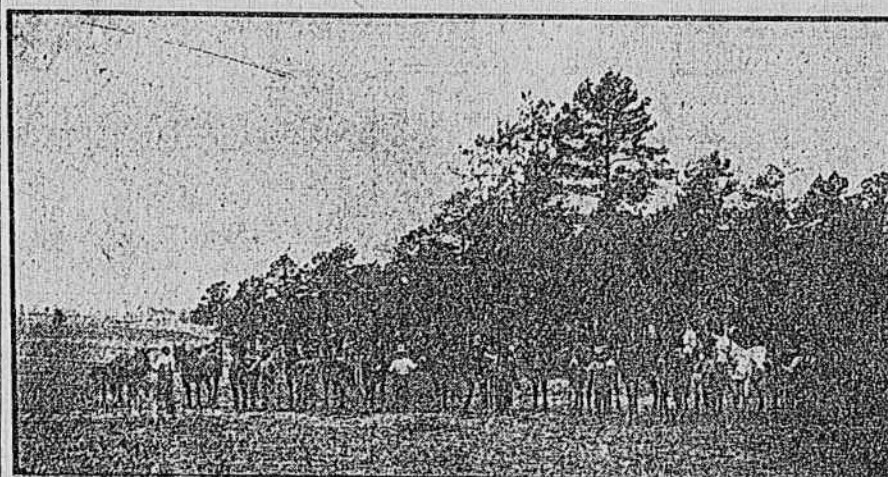
After giving a glowing account of some other good things in and about Virgilina, Mr. Pool says: "But, mind you, gold is not the only metal we have in this section. We have some valuable deposits of copper, as valuable as can be found in all the south, and but for the low price of copper we would now have not less than a dozen copper mines at work. The Tennessee Copper Company now holds leases on several properties which they are obligated to operate when copper reaches a certain price, and it is now within a fraction of a cent of that price."

**Wonderful Progress in Factories.**  
I am in the habit of getting a great deal of valuable industrial information from that sterling journal, the Manufacturers' Record. Here is a little summary of it from the Record:  
Between 1904 and 1909 the capital invested in factories in the South, exclusive of Virginia and West Virginia, for which census returns have not yet been announced, increased from \$1,362,227,000 to \$2,036,619,000, or by \$674,392,000, or 49.4 per cent. And the value of factory products increased from \$1,640,978,000 to \$2,153,297,000, or by \$512,319,000, equal to 30.9 per cent. I will probably have the Virginia figures by next week and they will be encouraging. For it is to be doubted if any Southern State has made greater industrial progress within the last ten years than Virginia.

**More Canneries Wanted.**  
In this great fruit-growing State of Virginia more canneries are needed, and there is a fine opening for capital and talent right here. At times a large amount of fruit and early vegetables are wasted because markets are glutted or railroads are unable to handle them promptly, and the grower thus puts to great loss, but these very people with a new machine are often buying canned goods put in in the North or West. Moreover, there is a large amount of fruit sometimes too ripe to bear long shipment which could be canned to great advantage. The whole South is a good field for canners, and no part of the South or



LEAF TOBACCO HUSTLERS.



MULE RAISING IN VIRGINIA.

## GOOD CHEER FROM HENRY COUNTY

Lawyer-Farmer Corrects Statement About Oat Crop—But Most Things Lovely.

### A REMINISCENT WORD OR TWO

Recollections of George Booker, Former Congressman and Shingle-Maker.

Last week the Industrial Section carried an article by the Industrial Editor on the crop outlook generally, in which the damage by cool spring weather and the drought that followed was duly considered. In this article a letter from a friend in Henry county was quoted. This letter pertained to the oat crop, and while it was doubtful enough as to what it did say that J. M. Barker, the great oat grower of Henry, had managed to sail between the cool spells and the drought season well enough to make a fairly good oat crop, not anything like as big as is usual with him, but a fairly good crop, considering the bad conditions. It was assumed that if Mr. Barker did so well some of his neighbors had also come out better than they had expected a month or two ago, and it was so stated.

Now comes a contradictory letter from William Madison Peyton, attorney at law, of Martinsville, and presumably a farmer also, for he talks and writes and spells like one, and up in Henry county it is the usual thing to unite law and "craps" and other things, as industrial propositions. I once knew a man in that county who was a lawyer, a farmer, a sawmill man, a horse doctor, a shingle splitter, and a Congressman, and all at once, and as such one of the best posted men on matters that were not profitable, I ever knew. His name was George Booker, and by some kind of accident in the days following Reconstruction he got a seat in Congress. He held it only two years, but in that time he learned a sight that was worth knowing, and some things that were not worth knowing. For instance, as illustrative of the latter, he could name all of the Vice-Presidents and all of the Speakers of the House of Representatives in their regular order from the foundation of the government down to date. That was good enough information of his kind, but it was not worth old George Booker's breath to tell about it, but all the same he would tell about it every time he could get a listener.

### A Sentimental Artist, Too.

Booker was also something of an artist as a carver and maker of walking canes, made and carved from the valuable cane that grows to perfection in Henry county. I have now a cane he carved for me, and it is covered with snakes and lizards. I hope he did not intend it to be suggestive.

In a talk I had with him away back yonder when I was much younger than now, by way of chasing him away from his herring reminiscences, I asked him if it was not a mighty fine thing to sit in Congress, do nothing and draw a big salary. He replied that being in Congress was pretty good, practicing law in Henry was fairly good, and farming on a small scale was not to be sneezed at, but of all the "professions" he had ever followed



A BUSY TRUCK SHIPPING STATION.

## VIEWS AND NEAR VIEWS; HINTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Corn Shortage in West—Be Made Good in Virginia—There Is Much in a Good Name. Farm Boys Coming Home—Various Hints and Thoughts.

BY FRANK S. WOODSON, Industrial Editor.

Here is the latest news I have from the West, and I get it from a very reliable Western journal: "There is a lack of growing weather in the big corn-growing States west of the Mississippi River, and a consequent rise in the price of corn. Unless rains soon change this situation corn will continue to advance in value, and also hogs."

Now, I am the last man in the world to gloat over the misfortunes of others; the good Lord knows we have had enough bad weather of our own in this part of the country. But if it so happens that those good folks west of the big river are falling short of the corn crop and the hog crop this year, while here in Virginia and North Carolina we have every prospect of a big crop, both of corn and hogs, and if the shortness of the crop away West enhances the value of the grain and the hogs when marketing time comes, then we Virginians and Tarheels are right in the swim. And it is not yet too late to plant a little more corn, in view of the shortness of things out West. And this is just a hint to Virginia corn-growers and hog breeders, who have every advantage of climatic conditions and long seasons. Just a hint, mind you.

### A Name for the Old Home.

In some parts of Virginia there has been a custom that dates back to Colonial days—the custom of giving a name to one's farm or home, however small and humble it may be. The custom is not State-wide, I am sorry to say. I have been impressed with some of the names given to homes and farms up under the mountains; that is to say, in Hanover, Louisa, Albemarle and Augusta counties. Down in the extreme Eastern part of the State there are many old places that have distinguishing names. I wish every farm in the State that is worth anything in an

Industrial way had a distinctive name. Wonder if it would not be a good idea to get back to the old Colonial idea of giving a distinctive name to the old home place, especially if it be a good old farm or an industrial proposition? Agricultural and industrial propositions should always go hand in hand. Why should everybody and everything raised, fed and housed on the farm have a distinctive name and the farm itself have none? Once the farm has a name its owner is stimulated to make for it also a reputation, so that the mere fact of its coming from that farm will be accepted as a guarantee of good quality for everything he offers for sale.

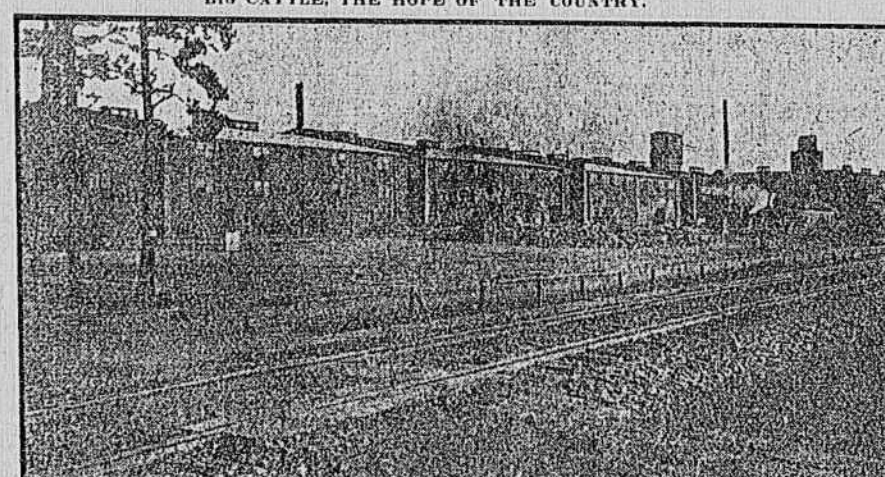
Furthermore, the giving of a name to the homestead increases one's attachment to the place, and gives it a sentimental value which is well worth considering. It makes the identification of the owner easier where several personal names are confusingly similar; and it soon becomes as familiar to residents of the country around as that of the post-office.

### Commission Form of Government.

Here is an editorial from the Augusta, Ga., Evening Herald. It may be a little new to some of the professional politicians; that is to say, the last paragraph may be a bit startling. However, as an industrial and progressive proposition, let us hope that some of the good things suggested by the Georgia paper may come to pass. Here is just what the Augusta Herald says: "Because of the fact that Richmond, Va., has been chosen as the place of the National Municipal League's yearly meeting next November, it is interesting to note that one of the leading municipal problems in which the league has devoted much attention has its origin in the South. This is the commission form of government, first practically applied in Galveston, and subsequently adopted, in one form or



BIG CATTLE, THE HOPE OF THE COUNTRY.



BIG FACTORIES IN VIEW.

## HEALTHY CHICKS; HOW TO GET THEM

One of the Main Points in Successful Poultry Raising.

BY WALTER C. SCHAAF.

Have you ever stopped to think what we expect from a good hen? What we call a good hen is one which will lay, say, from 125 to 150 eggs per year, or in rare cases more. Now, 150 eggs will weigh about five times as much as the average hen, consequently we have to avoid or fight shy of causes tending to lower the vitality of our flocks. Modern poultry-keeping makes larger and larger demands on the strength of the hens. The wild jungle fowl, from which our domestic fowls have come, laid a litter of eggs (about twelve) in the natural mating season (spring), and then hatched her eggs and raised her young to maturity, with which she completed her year's work. Our modern fowl we not only expect to lay about twelve dozen eggs per year, but we also want the eggs to be strong in fertility and hatch chickens having as strong vitality as the parent stock. Now, one cause of lowered vitality amongst us fanciers is too close in and in breeding without regard to vigor. We all know how hard it is to kill for market a weakling who is or will be a fine show specimen. Still, this is the only way, as a bird that at any time of its growing period is weak or sick should not be used for breeding purposes. Another cause of lowered vitality in a great many flocks is the use of pullets instead of hens for breeding purposes. If we use pullets that are fully matured, I personally believe the vitality in the chicks will be just as great as with hens of two years or over, but here's the rub. By breeding from pullets the breeder is undertaking to reproduce from fowls that have not yet reached maturity

## CHICAGO'S WAY OF GETTING THERE

A Few Pointers That Richmond and Other Virginia Towns May Study.

### PUBLICITY IS THE KEYNOTE

Some Big Things That Came by Organized Effort—Interesting Object Lesson.

BY FRANK S. WOODSON.

Chicago is a hustling city, and has a way of getting there always. There are very many things in Chicago, but there are more good things there than bad ones. There may be more saloons to the square mile in Chicago than there are in Philadelphia or Richmond, or even New Orleans, but it is dollars to doughnuts that there are also more churches and other religious organizations to the square mile there in either of the cities named. Richmond not excepted. And then when it comes down to business Chicago sets the pace, and its example in many lines may be copied to advantage.

**Unique Business Organization.**  
Chicago has a unique commercial and industrial association that works in harmony with all other trade organizations, and yet does a wonderful lot of development and business building on its own hook. The Chicago Association of Commerce is its name, and it is indeed unique, there is nothing like it anywhere else in the world. It was formed five years ago, and has a membership of nearly 4,000. It is composed of four divisions—the interstate division, the civic industrial division, the local division and the foreign trade division. A vice-president is at the head of each division. There are seventy-eight subdivisions. Five members from each of these subdivisions constitute the ways and means committee, a body of 390 members, to whom is referred a great variety of questions for consideration. There is an executive committee of twenty-three; also a board of directors of twenty-seven; also a senior council made up of former presidents and former vice-presidents, who are ex-officio members of the executive committee, and who have a special jurisdiction over the affairs of the association.

### Good Work Done.

During the last five years the association has established representatives throughout the Spanish-American countries to further the increase of Chicago exports. It has this year assigned 450 men to cultivate acquaintance with the business organizations throughout Illinois—a work that is to be extended to other States. It is carrying on all sorts of inquiries looking to the improvement of conditions in Chicago. It has an expert committee engaged on the problem of electrifying railroad terminals. It has another committee studying the question of housing the working people of the city, and already five members of the association have each contributed \$50,000 for furthering this investigation. These are only a few illustrations of the scope of the activity characterizing this energetic body.

### Works With Politicians Also.

One of the most striking features of the work of the association is its established co-operation with the Mayor of the city, his cabinet and the City

## REAL ESTATE AND BUILDING NEWS

Dullness in the City, but Unusual Activity in the Bright Suburbs.

## TIRED AGENTS TRYING TO REST

New Suburbs Opening Up, and Old Ones Are Flourishing. City Advantages Being Carried to the Rural Districts. A Cynic's Idea Is Refuted—General Notes.

In real estate circles the summer dullness continues, and no one can wonder at it, for this is the season for that kind of dullness. Of the business men of Richmond, the real estate agents are probably the hardest worked. They get right large commissions when they make big deals, and they are surely entitled to them, for they do a lot of work that sometimes does not result in commissions. And so they are justly entitled to a rest when the hot season comes. And, Great Caesar's ghost! isn't the hot season here all right? Possibly half of the real estate agents are just now seeking rest in the mountains, on the seashore and elsewhere. Many of the investors and realty buyers are doing likewise, and this fully explains the dullness, if an explanation were necessary.

**Several Big Deals.**  
However, there is something doing. Many deals that have long been hanging on the string are being closed up, and the agencies that make a specialty of the rental business have been kept busy enough the past week. The largest deal of the week was one that has been hanging on that string for fully two months, and finally, on Wednesday last, by this deal Hunter B. Frischkorn, becomes the owner of the splendid business property at Ninth and Cary Streets, the big store and the surrounding ground, now occupied by the Smith-Courtney Company. Mr. Frischkorn bought the property from Reuben Burton, and paid for it \$50,000, making the deal purely as an investment. Latham & Ruffin were the agents who engineered the deal.

Eliaz & Funston also made a big deal, or got it so near to the closing point that it becomes a semi-news matter. They sold some fine warehouse property that is centrally located, and claim to have gotten \$45,000 for it. Inasmuch as the deals will not be signed and recorded until to-morrow, the selling firm declines to give names and particulars, but there can be no doubt of the fact that the deal is practically closed.

**Many Residences Sold.**  
Various agencies report fairly good sales of residential property within the city limits, but none of them claim a total exceeding \$15,000, and from that down to \$5,000. Altogether, however, these small sales, added to the big deals above mentioned, run the total footings for the week up to about \$350,000. One of the leading agents said to me yesterday: "While the actual sales being made indicate that summer dullness you have been talking about, the inquiry for big property and the plans of big investors that have been developed are in every way encouraging to the agents. As a matter of fact, we rather welcome the midsummer dullness. It gives us the chance to close up in a deliberate and a quiet way many deals that have been on the string for a long time, and to make our arrangements for the heavy fall business that we know is on ahead. Not less than 100 as many deals are hanging on the summer string, and better many of them come this fall 75 per cent of them will be closed, and a record will be made that will lay over anything Richmond has ever before done in the real estate line."

All of the above remarks, referring strictly to city properties, the holders of suburban properties say they have not yet experienced any midsummer dullness. The only thing they dread is a midwinter dullness. The agents who report building operations unusually active and the sales of lots to prospective builders quote numerous. C. W. Morrellist, O. B. Howard and C. Cohn are among the Ginter Park folks who broke ground last week for new homes.

The Hermitage Land Company, Incorporated, in a new concern, that has after a lot of dealing and advertising, trafficking that has been going on for more than a year, come to the front with a first-class suburban proposition. The company has bought the original Hermitage tract, on the south side of the Hermitage Road, opposite Lee's barnum. The tract contains about twenty-five acres, and the company has cut it up into lots of fifty-foot frontage in the main and lots of sixty and seventy feet frontage on the Hermitage Road.

The company has arranged for trolley line accommodations at the 5 cent fare, and has also made provisions for a city water and sewerage service. The officers of the company are John W. Gordon, president; E. A. Catlin, vice-president, and William L. Taylor, secretary and treasurer. The real estate firm of E. A. Catlin & Co. will have charge of the sales department of this property. The handsome place has been named Hermitage Park.

Westhampton Heights property, so successfully, has just put a new piece of land on the market. The property adjoins Westhampton Heights, and is known as College View.

**Monument Annex, Etc.**  
Recent developments have brought Monument Annex prominently into the limelight. Blanton & Co. sold over a hundred lots there last week, and they tell me that the good work goes bravely on, but they tell their own story in another page. Suffice it to say that during the past week the lots were snapped up so fast

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